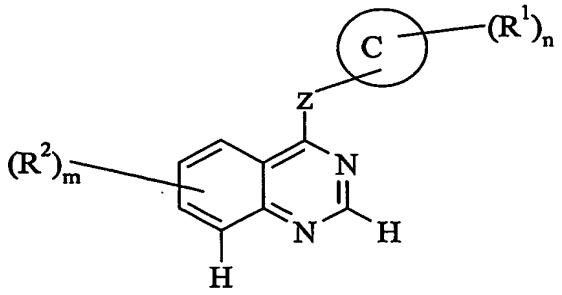
CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

ring C is an 8, 9, 10, 12 or 13-membered bicyclic or tricyclic moiety which moiety may be saturated or unsaturated, which may be aromatic or non-aromatic, and which optionally may contain 1-3 heteroatoms selected independently from O, N and S;

Z is -O-, -NH- or -S-;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^2 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, $-NR^3R^4$ (wherein R^3 and R^4, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl), or R^5X^1- (wherein X^1 represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH_2-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, $-NR^6C(O)$-, $-C(O)NR^7$-, $-SO_2NR^8$-, $-NR^9SO_2$- or $-NR^{10}$- (wherein R^6, R^7, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^5 is selected from one of the following twenty-two groups:

1) hydrogen, oxiranylC_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-5}alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo and amino;

2) C_{1-5}alkyl$X^2C(O)R^{11}$ (wherein X^2 represents -O- or $-NR^{12}$- (in which R^{12} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{11} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$ or $-OR^{15}$ (wherein R^{13}, R^{14} and R^{15} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-5}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

3) C_{1-5}alkylX^3R^{16} (wherein X^3 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -OC(O)-, $-NR^{17}C(O)$-, $-C(O)NR^{18}$-, $-SO_2NR^{19}$-, $-NR^{20}SO_2$- or $-NR^{21}$- (wherein R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20} and R^{21} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{16} represents

hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

4) C_{1-5}alkyl$X^4$$C_{1-5}$alkyl$X^5$$R^{22}$ (wherein X^4 and X^5 which may be the same or different are each -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{23}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{24}-, -SO_2NR^{25}-, -$NR^{26}SO_2$- or -NR^{27}- (wherein R^{23}, R^{24}, R^{25}, R^{26} and R^{27} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{22} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl);

5) R^{28} (wherein R^{28} is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

6) C_{1-5}alkylR^{28} (wherein R^{28} is as defined herein);

7) C_{2-5}alkenylR^{28} (wherein R^{28} is as defined herein);

8) C_{2-5}alkynylR^{28} (wherein R^{28} is as defined herein);

9) R^{29} (wherein R^{29} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -

$C(O)NR^{30}R^{31}$, $-NR^{32}C(O)R^{33}$ (wherein R^{30}, R^{31}, R^{32} and R^{33}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

10) C_{1-5}alkylR^{29} (wherein R^{29} is as defined herein);

11) C_{2-5}alkenylR^{29} (wherein R^{29} is as defined herein);

12) C_{2-5}alkynylR^{29} (wherein R^{29} is as defined herein);

13) C_{1-5}alkylX^6R^{29} (wherein X^6 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{34}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{35}-$, $-SO_2NR^{36}-$, $-NR^{37}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{38}-$ (wherein R^{34}, R^{35}, R^{36}, R^{37} and R^{38} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{29} is as defined herein);

14) C_{2-5}alkenylX^7R^{29} (wherein X^7 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{39}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{40}-$, $-SO_2NR^{41}-$, $-NR^{42}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{43}-$ (wherein R^{39}, R^{40}, R^{41}, R^{42} and R^{43} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{29} is as defined herein);

15) C_{2-5}alkynylX^8R^{29} (wherein X^8 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{44}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{45}-$, $-SO_2NR^{46}-$, $-NR^{47}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{48}-$ (wherein R^{44}, R^{45}, R^{46}, R^{47} and R^{48} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{29} is as defined herein);

16) C_{1-4}alkylX^9C_{1-4}alkylR^{29} (wherein X^9 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{49}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{50}-$, $-SO_2NR^{51}-$, $-NR^{52}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{53}-$ (wherein R^{49}, R^{50}, R^{51}, R^{52} and R^{53} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{29} is as defined herein);

17) C_{1-4}alkylX^9C_{1-4}alkylR^{28} (wherein X^9 and R^{28} are as defined herein);

18) C_{2-5}alkenyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl;

19) C_{2-5}alkynyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl;

20) C_{2-5}alkenylX^9C_{1-4}alkylR^{28} (wherein X^9 and R^{28} are as defined herein);

21) C_{2-5}alkynylX^9C_{1-4}alkylR^{28} (wherein X^9 and R^{28} are as defined herein); and

22) C_{1-4}alkyl$R^{54}(C_{1-4}alkyl)_q(X^9)_rR^{55}$ (wherein X^9 is as defined herein, q is 0 or 1, r is 0 or 1, and R^{54} and R^{55} are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected

independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl), with the proviso that R^{54} cannot be hydrogen);

and additionally wherein any C_{1-5}alkyl, C_{2-5}alkenyl or C_{2-5}alkynyl group in R^5X^1- which is linked to X^1 may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino);

R^1 represents hydrogen, oxo, halogeno, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}haloalkyl, cyano, amino, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-3}alkanoyloxy, nitro, C_{1-4}alkanoylamino, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphanyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, carbamoyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl, N-(C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl)amino, N-(C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl)-N-(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl)amino, a C_{3-7}alkylene chain joined to two ring C carbon atoms, C_{1-4}alkanoylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, carboxy or a group $R^{56}X^{10}$ (wherein X^{10} represents a direct bond, -O-, -CH_2-, -OC(O)-, -C(O)-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{57}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{58}-, -SO_2NR^{59}-, -$NR^{60}SO_2$- or -NR^{61}- (wherein R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60} and R^{61} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl), and R^{56} is selected from one of the following twenty-two groups:

1) hydrogen, oxiranylC_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-5}alkyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo and amino;

2) C_{1-5}alkylX^{11}C(O)R^{62} (wherein X^{11} represents -O- or -NR^{63}- (in which R^{63} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{62} represents C_{1-3}alkyl, -$NR^{64}R^{65}$ or -OR^{66} (wherein R^{64}, R^{65} and R^{66} which may be the same or different each represents hydrogen, C_{1-5}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl));

3) C_{1-5}alkyl$X^{12}R^{67}$ (wherein X^{12} represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -OC(O)-, -NR^{68}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{69}-, -SO_2NR^{70}-, -$NR^{71}SO_2$- or -NR^{72}- (wherein R^{68}, R^{69}, R^{70}, R^{71} and R^{72} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{67} represents

hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

4) C_{1-5}alkyl$X^{13}$$C_{1-5}$alkyl$X^{14}$$R^{73}$ (wherein X^{13} and X^{14} which may be the same or different are each -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NR^{74}C(O)-, -C(O)NR^{75}-, -SO_2NR^{76}-, -$NR^{77}SO_2$- or -NR^{78}- (wherein R^{74}, R^{75}, R^{76}, R^{77} and R^{78} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{73} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl);

5) R^{79} (wherein R^{79} is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

6) C_{1-5}alkylR^{79} (wherein R^{79} is as defined herein);

7) C_{2-5}alkenylR^{79} (wherein R^{79} is as defined herein);

8) C_{2-5}alkynylR^{79} (wherein R^{79} is as defined herein);

9) R^{80} (wherein R^{80} represents a pyridone group, a phenyl group or a 5-6-membered aromatic heterocyclic group (linked via carbon or nitrogen) with 1-3 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S, which pyridone, phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic group may carry up to 5 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, amino, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkoxy, carboxy, trifluoromethyl, cyano, -

$C(O)NR^{81}R^{82}$, $-NR^{83}C(O)R^{84}$ (wherein R^{81}, R^{82}, R^{83} and R^{84}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}alkyl)_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

10) C_{1-5}alkylR^{80} (wherein R^{80} is as defined herein);

11) C_{2-5}alkenylR^{80} (wherein R^{80} is as defined herein);

12) C_{2-5}alkynylR^{80} (wherein R^{80} is as defined herein);

13) C_{1-5}alkyl$X^{15}R^{80}$ (wherein X^{15} represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{85}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{86}-$, $-SO_2NR^{87}-$, $-NR^{88}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{89}-$ (wherein R^{85}, R^{86}, R^{87}, R^{88} and R^{89} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{80} is as defined herein);

14) C_{2-5}alkenyl$X^{16}R^{80}$ (wherein X^{16} represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{90}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{91}-$, $-SO_2NR^{92}-$, $-NR^{93}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{94}-$ (wherein R^{90}, R^{91}, R^{92}, R^{93} and R^{94} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{80} is as defined herein);

15) C_{2-5}alkynyl$X^{17}R^{80}$ (wherein X^{17} represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{95}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{96}-$, $-SO_2NR^{97}-$, $-NR^{98}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{99}-$ (wherein R^{95}, R^{96}, R^{97}, R^{98} and R^{99} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{80} is as defined herein);

16) C_{1-4}alkyl$X^{18}C_{1-4}$alkylR^{80} (wherein X^{18} represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NR^{100}C(O)-$, $-C(O)NR^{101}-$, $-SO_2NR^{102}-$, $-NR^{103}SO_2-$ or $-NR^{104}-$ (wherein R^{100}, R^{101}, R^{102}, R^{103} and R^{104} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{80} is as defined herein);

17) C_{1-4}alkyl$X^{18}C_{1-4}$alkylR^{79} (wherein X^{18} and R^{79} are as defined herein);

18) C_{2-5}alkenyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl;

19) C_{2-5}alkynyl which may be unsubstituted or which may be substituted with one or more groups selected from hydroxy, fluoro, amino, C_{1-4}alkylamino, N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, aminosulphonyl, N-C_{1-4}alkylaminosulphonyl and N,N-di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulphonyl;

20) C_{2-5}alkenyl$X^{18}C_{1-4}$alkylR^{79} (wherein X^{18} and R^{79} are as defined herein);

21) C_{2-5}alkynyl$X^{18}C_{1-4}$alkylR^{79} (wherein X^{18} and R^{79} are as defined herein); and

22) C_{1-4}alkyl$R^{105}(C_{1-4}alkyl)_x(X^{18})_yR^{106}$ (wherein X^{18} is as defined herein, x is 0 or 1, y is 0 or 1, and R^{105} and R^{106} are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected

independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl) with the proviso that R^{105} cannot be hydrogen);

and additionally wherein any C_{1-5}alkyl, C_{2-5}alkenyl or C_{2-5}alkynyl group in $R^{56}X^{10}$- which is linked to X^{10} may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino);

with the proviso that one or more R^1 and/or one or more R^2 are selected from Q^1X^1- wherein X^1 is as defined herein and Q^1 is selected from one of the following groups:

1) C_{1-4}alkyl-Q^{13}-C(O)-C_{1-4}alkyl-Q^{14} wherein Q^{13} is C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or may bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl), and Q^{14} is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom and optionally containing a further nitrogen atom wherein Q^{14} is linked to C_{1-6}alkanoyl through a nitrogen

atom and wherein Q^{14} optionally bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl);

2) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl and optionally bears a further 1 or 2 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

3) C_{1-5}alkylW^1Q^2 (wherein W^1 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -OC(O)-, -NQ^3C(O)-, -C(O)NQ^4-, -SO_2NQ^5-, -NQ^6SO_2- or –NQ^7- (wherein Q^3, Q^4, Q^5, Q^6 and Q^7 each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl or C_{1-4}haloalkyl) and Q^2 is as defined herein);

4) C_{1-5}alkylQ^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);

5) C_{2-5}alkenylQ^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);

6) C_{2-5}alkynylQ^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);

7) C_{1-4}alkylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2 (wherein W^2 represents -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-NQ^8C(O)-$, $-C(O)NQ^9-$, $-SO_2NQ^{10}-$, $-NQ^{11}SO_2-$ or $-NQ^{12}-$ (wherein Q^8, Q^9, Q^{10}, Q^{11} and Q^{12} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl, C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl or C_{1-4}haloalkyl) and Q^2 is as defined herein);

8) C_{2-5}alkenylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2 (wherein W^2 and Q^2 are as defined herein);

9) C_{2-5}alkynylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2 (wherein W^2 and Q^2 are as defined herein);

10) C_{1-4}alkyl$Q^{15}(C_{1-4}$alkyl$)_j(W^2)_kQ^{16}$ (wherein W^2 is as defined herein, j is 0 or 1, k is 0 or 1, and Q^{15} and Q^{16} are each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl and a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which C_{1-3}alkyl group may bear 1 or 2 substituents selected from oxo, hydroxy, halogeno and C_{1-4}alkoxy and which cyclic group may bear either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or may bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group $-(-O-)_f(C_{1-4}$alkyl$)_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl), with the provisos that Q^{15} cannot be hydrogen and one or both of Q^{15} and Q^{16} must be a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein);

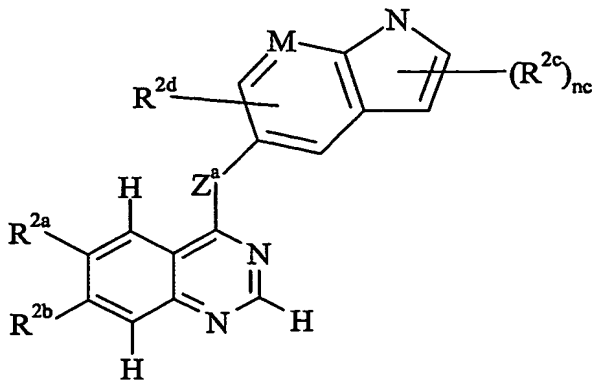
11) C_{1-4}alkyl$Q^{15}C_{1-4}$alkanoylQ^{16n} wherein Q^{15} is as defined herein and is not hydrogen and Q^{16n} is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom and optionally containing a further nitrogen atom wherein Q^{16n} is linked to C_{1-6}alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom and wherein Q^{16n} bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl); with the proviso that one or both of Q^{15} and Q^{16n} must be a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{1-6}alkanoylC_{1-6}alkyl and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein;
and additionally wherein any C_{1-5}alkyl, C_{2-5}alkenyl or C_{2-5}alkynyl group in Q^1X^1- which is linked to X^1 may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino);
or a salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein ring C is a 9-10-membered heteroaromatic bicyclic moiety which contains 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms..

3. A compound according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein Z is -O- or -S-.

4. A compound according to any one of claims 1-3 wherein R^1 represents methyl or fluoro.

5. A compound according to claim 1 of the formula IIb:



(IIb)

wherein:

M is -CH- or -N-;

nc is 0, 1 or 2;

R^{2c} is linked to a carbon atom of the 5-membered ring and is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

R^{2d} is linked to a carbon atom of the 6-membered ring and is selected from hydrogen and fluoro;

R^{2a} and R^{2b} are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkoxy, C_{1-3}alkylsulphanyl, $-NR^{3a}R^{4a}$ (wherein R^{3a} and R^{4a}, which may be the same or different, each represents hydrogen or C_{1-3}alkyl), and Q^1X^1 wherein Q^1 and X^1 are as defined in claim 1;

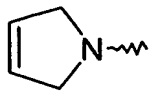
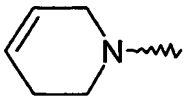
Z^a is -O- or -S-;

with the proviso that at least one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is Q^1X^1 wherein Q^1 and X^1 are as defined in claim 1;

or a salt thereof.

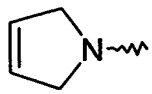
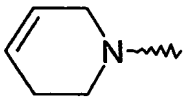
6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is methoxy and the other is Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is -O- and Q^1 is selected from one of the following groups:

1) C_{1-4}alkyl-Q^{13}-C(O)-C_{1-4}alkyl-Q^{14} wherein Q^{13} and Q^{14} are each independently selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,

 and  ,

wherein Q^{14} is linked to C_{1-6}alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom;

2) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,

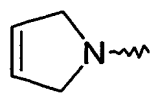
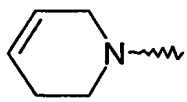
 and  ,

which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl and optionally bears a further 1 or 2 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which cyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl));

3) C_{1-5}alkylQ^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein);

4) C_{1-4}alkylW^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2 (wherein W^2 is as defined in claim 1 and Q^2 is as defined herein);

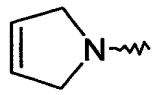
5) C_{1-4}alkylQ^{15}(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_j$(W^2)$_k$$Q^{16}$ (wherein W^2 is as defined in claim 1, j is 0 or 1, k is 0 or 1, and Q^{15} and Q^{16} are each independently selected from a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,

 and  ,

which heterocyclic group may bear either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or may bear 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-}

$_5$alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl), with the proviso one or both of Q^{15} and Q^{16} must be a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein);

6) C_{1-4}alkyl$Q^{15}$$C_{1-4}$alkanoyl$Q^{16n}$ wherein Q^{15} is as defined herein and Q^{16n} is a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,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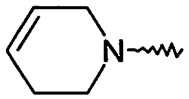
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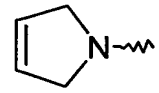
wherein Q^{16n} is linked to C_{1-6}alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom and wherein Q^{16n} bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears 1, 2 or 3 substituents selected from C_{2-5}alkenyl, C_{2-5}alkynyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl, aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-6}alkanoyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkanoyl, carbamoyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoyl, carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)carbamoylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-6}fluoroalkylsulphonyl, oxo, hydroxy, halogeno, cyano, C_{1-4}cyanoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}aminoalkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkyl, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylaminoC_{1-4}alkoxy, di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminoC_{1-4}alkoxy and a group -(-O-)$_f$(C_{1-4}alkyl)$_g$ringD (wherein f is 0 or 1, g is 0 or 1 and ring D is a 5-6-membered saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic group with 1-2 heteroatoms, selected independently from O, S and N, which heterocyclic group may bear

one or more substituents selected from C_{1-4}alkyl); with the proviso that one or both of Q^{15} and Q^{16n} must be a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group as defined herein which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears at least one substituent selected from C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl and optionally bears 1 or 2 further substituents selected from those defined herein;
and additionally wherein any C_{1-5}alkyl, C_{2-5}alkenyl or C_{2-5}alkynyl group in Q^1X^1- which is linked to X^1 may bear one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, halogeno and amino).

7. A compound according to claim 5 wherein one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is methoxy and the other is Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is -O- and Q^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl-Q^{13}-C(O)-C_{1-4}alkyl-Q^{14} wherein Q^{13} and Q^{14} are each independently selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,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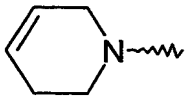
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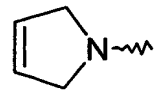
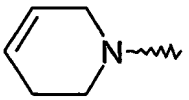
wherein Q^{14} is linked to C_{1-6}alkanoyl through a nitrogen atom.

8. A compound according to claim 5 wherein one of R^{2a} and R^{2b} is methoxy and the other is Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is -O- and Q^1 is selected from one of the following groups:
1) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group selected from pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl,


and

,

which heterocyclic group bears either one substituent selected from methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy to form a bicyclic ring, or bears one substituent selected from C_{2-4}alkanoylC_{1-3}alkyl; and
2) C_{1-5}alkylQ^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined herein).

9. A compound according to claim 7 or claim 8 wherein R^{2a} is methoxy.

10. A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

7-{[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-{[1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}quinazoline,

6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)oxy]-7-{[1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}quinazoline,

6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-{[1-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperidin-4-yl]methoxy}quinazoline,

6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,

6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,

4-[(2,3-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxy-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,

4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxy-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,

7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-[(2,3-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,

7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(3-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,

6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-7-{2-[4-(pyrrolidin-1-ylacetyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}quinazoline,

7-{[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-6-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

7-{[1-(acetylmethyl)piperidin-4-yl]oxy}-4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,

or a salt thereof.

11. A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxy-7-[2-(tetrahydro-5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*c*]pyrrol-5-yl)ethoxy]quinazoline,

7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-6-methoxy-4-[(2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]quinazoline,

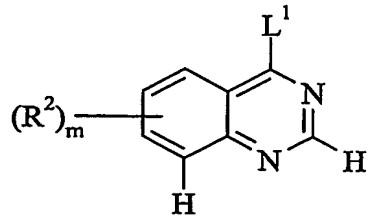
7-{2-[4-(acetylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]ethoxy}-4-[(4-fluoro-2-methyl-1*H*-indol-5-yl)oxy]-6-methoxyquinazoline,

or a salt thereof.

12. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

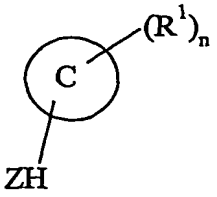
13. A process for the preparation of a compound according to claim 1 of the formula I or salt thereof which comprises:

(a) the reaction of a compound of the formula III:



(III)

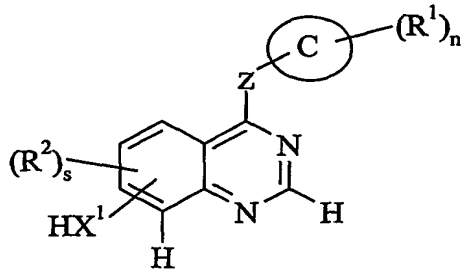
(wherein R^2 and m are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 is a displaceable moiety), with a compound of the formula IV:



(IV)

(wherein ring C, R^1, Z and n are as defined in claim 1) optionally followed by the addition of a substituent on a heterocyclic ring of R^1 or R^2;

(b) for compounds of formula I and salts thereof wherein at least one R^2 is R^5X^1 or Q^1X^1 wherein R^5 and Q^1 are as defined in claim 1, and X^1 is -O-, -S-, -OC(O)- or -NR^{10}- (wherein R^{10} independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) the reaction of a compound of the formula V:



(V)

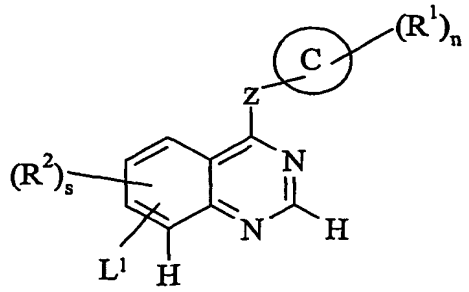
(wherein ring C, Z, R^1, R^2 and n are as defined in claim 1 and X^1 is as defined in this section and s is an integer from 0 to 2) with one of the compounds of the formulae VIa-b:

$$R^5\text{-}L^1 \qquad \text{(VIa)}$$

$$Q^1\text{-}L^1 \qquad \text{(VIb)}$$

(wherein R^5 and Q^1 are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 is as defined herein);

(c) for compounds of the formula I and salts thereof wherein at least one R^2 is R^5X^1 or Q^1X^1 wherein R^5 and Q^1 are as defined in claim 1, and X^1 is -O-, -S-, -OC(O)- or -NR^{10}- (wherein R^{10} represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) the reaction of a compound of the formula VII:



(VII)

with one of the compounds of the formulae VIIIa-b:

R^5-X^1-H (VIIIa)

Q^1-X^1-H (VIIIb)

(wherein R^1, R^2, R^5, Q^1, ring C, Z and n are as defined in claim 1, L^1 and s are as defined herein and X^1 is as defined in this section;

(d) for compounds of the formula I and salts thereof wherein at least one R^2 is R^5X^1 or Q^1X^1 wherein X^1 is as defined in claim 1, R^5 is C_{1-5}alkylR^{113}, wherein R^{113} is selected from one of the following nine groups:

1) $X^{19}C_{1-3}$alkyl (wherein X^{19} represents -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NR^{114}C(O)- or –$NR^{115}SO_2$- (wherein R^{114} and R^{115} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl);

2) $NR^{116}R^{117}$ (wherein R^{116} and R^{117} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl);

3) $X^{20}C_{1-5}$alkylX^5R^{22} (wherein X^{20} represents -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NR^{118}C(O)-, -$NR^{119}SO_2$- or –NR^{120}- (wherein R^{118}, R^{119}, and R^{120} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and X^5 and R^{22} are as defined in claim 1);

4) R^{28} (wherein R^{28} is as defined in claim 1);

5) $X^{21}R^{29}$ (wherein X^{21} represents -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NR^{121}C(O)-, -$NR^{122}SO_2$-, or –NR^{123}- (wherein R^{121}, R^{122}, and R^{123} which may be the same or different are each hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{29} is as defined in claim 1);

6) $X^{22}C_{1-3}$alkylR^{29} (wherein X^{22} represents -O-, -S-, -SO_2-, -NR^{124}C(O)-, -$NR^{125}SO_2$- or –NR^{126}- (wherein R^{124}, R^{125} and R^{126} each independently represents hydrogen, C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkoxyC_{2-3}alkyl) and R^{29} is as defined in claim 1);

7) R^{29} (wherein R^{29} is as defined in claim 1);

8) $X^{22}C_{1-4}$alkylR^{28} (wherein X^{22} and R^{28} are as defined in claim 1); and

9) $R^{54}(C_{1-4}\text{alkyl})_q(X^9)_rR^{55}$ (wherein q, r, X^9, R^{54} and R^{55} are as defined in claim 1);

Q^1 is C_{1-5}alkylQ^{27} wherein Q^{27} is selected from one of the following six groups:

1) Q^{13}-C(O)-C_{1-4}alkylQ^{14} (wherein Q^{13} and Q^{14} are as defined in claim 1);

2) W^1Q^2 (wherein W^1 and Q^2 are as defined in claim 1);

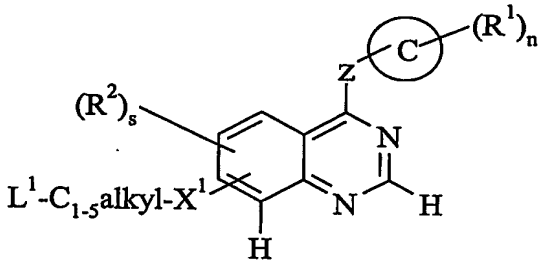
3) Q^2 (wherein Q^2 is as defined in claim 1);

4) W^2C_{1-4}alkylQ^2 (wherein W^2 and Q^2 are as defined in claim 1);

5) $Q^{15}(C_{1-4}alkyl)_j(W^2)_kQ^{16}$ (wherein W^2, j, k, Q^{15} and Q^{16} are as defined in claim 1);

6) $Q^{15}C_{1-4}$alkanoylQ^{16n} (wherein Q^{15} and Q^{16n} are as defined in claim 1);

the reaction of a compound of the formula IX:



(IX)

(wherein X^1, R^1, R^2, ring C, Z and n are as defined in claim 1 and L^1 and s are as defined herein) with one of the compounds of the formulae Xa-b:

R^{113}-H (Xa)

Q^{27}-H (Xb)

(wherein R^{113} and Q^{27} are as defined herein) optionally followed by the addition of a substituent on a heterocyclic ring of R^1 or R^2;

and when a salt of a compound of formula I is required, reaction of the compound obtained with an acid or base whereby to obtain the desired salt.

14. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of the formula I as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or carrier.

15. Use of a compound of the formula I as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the production of an antiangiogenic and/or vascular permeability reducing effect in a warm-blooded animal.

16. A method for producing an antiangiogenic and/or vascular permeability reducing effect in a warm-blooded animal, such as a human being, in need of such treatment which comprises administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.